



## NMFS Northeast Fisheries Science Center

N E W S

### Northeast Regional Bycatch Workshop Set for June

*Organizers Call for Posters*

#### Northeast

#### Bycatch

#### Workshop

**Gloucester, Mass.** -- Federal fishery managers and researchers are sponsoring a public workshop on reducing unwanted catch in the region's commercial fisheries. Examples of unwanted catch include undersized fish, species with little or no market, marine mammals, and sea birds.

The workshop, *Bycatch in Northeast Fisheries: Moving Forward*, is set for Wakefield, Massachusetts at the Sheraton Colonial Conference Center, June 29-July 1, 2004. Organizers hope to attract a broad-based group of attendees interested in both research and public policy aspects of reducing so-called "bycatch" and the resulting waste of marine life.

The workshop is intended to be a forum. It will include invited speakers and panels, as well as a poster session. There will be break-out sessions during which attendees can express views on regional bycatch issues, and will help develop recommendations for science/research, data/monitoring, management, and gear engineering activities and projects that may lead to solutions.

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The resulting information will be considered as federal managers work this year on an updated version of the Northeast Region Bycatch Implementation Plan, to be completed this year.

Presentations for the poster session are being solicited now. Posters must be related to bycatch issues in the Northeast region but may touch on a variety of aspects-- legal, scientific, management, data, enforcement, and monitoring. The deadline for submission of poster abstracts is April 16, 2004. Send abstracts to Marla Trollan, NERO Outreach Coordinator, at [marla.trollan@noaa.gov](mailto:marla.trollan@noaa.gov), or contact via telephone 978-281-9388.

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*Bycatch in Northeast Fisheries: Moving Forward* is sponsored by NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) Northeast Regional Office, and NOAA's Northeast and Mid-Atlantic Sea Grant Programs. Other cooperators include NOAA Fisheries' Northeast Fisheries Science Center, and the region's three federal fishery management bodies: the New England Fishery Management Council, the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, and the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission.

For more information regarding the upcoming workshop, visit the NOAA Fisheries NERO website at:

<http://www.nero.noaa.gov/ro/doc/bycatchconf.html>. The workshop agenda and additional information will be posted on this web site during March.

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